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FCC ADOPTS ANNUAL REPORT ON STATE OF COMPETITION IN THE SATELLITE INDUSTRY

Washington, D.C. – Today, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) adopted its First Annual Report to Congress on the state of competition in the communications satellite services industry. This inaugural report examines six wholesale and two retail satellite services markets for the period of 2000 through 2006.

The FCC finds effective competition in the satellite markets addressed, based on a range of standard economic indicators commonly used to assess market concentration, conduct and performance. As the initial review of the satellite services sector, the Report provides a brief outline of the history and structure of the industry, and identifies certain capacity and pricing aspects specific to the sector, and notes intermodal competition from terrestrial technologies. At Congress' direction, the Report also discusses the Commission's policies regarding foreign participants' entry into the U.S. market, and as well as U.S. companies' ability to access to certain foreign markets.

The FCC concludes that the commercial satellite services sector continues to benefit U.S. consumers, government at all levels and American industry by providing important connectivity and ongoing technology innovation.

Action by the Commission March 22, 2007 by Report (FCC 07-34). Chairman Martin, Commissioners Tate, and McDowell, with Commissioners Copps and Adelstein concurring. Separate statements issued by Commissioners Copps, Adelstein, and Tate.

IB Docket No. 06-67

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